

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-22. (cancelled)

*3.4 Gag*

*3.1 Pol*

*13.0 Env*

*Changes?*

(23) (currently amended) A purified HIV-1 variant virus,  
wherein said HIV-1 variant virus differs at the amino acid sequence level from the  
group of viruses consisting of HIV-1<sub>IIIB</sub>, HIV-1<sub>BRU</sub>, and HIV-1<sub>ARV-2</sub> greater than 3.4% in  
the entire Gag protein, 3.1% in the entire Pol protein, and 13.0% in the entire Env  
protein,

wherein antibodies in AIDS patient sera bind to Gag, Pol, or Env polypeptides of  
said HIV-1 variant virus,

wherein said antibodies bind to Gag, Pol, or Env polypeptides of the virus  
designated HIV-1<sub>MAL</sub> deposited at the COLLECTION NATIONALE DES CULTURES  
DE MICRO-ORGANISMES (CNCM) under No. I-641,

wherein the genetic structure of said HIV-1 variant is 5'-LTR-gag-pol-vif-vpr-tat-  
rev-vpu-env-nef-LTR-3', and

wherein the nucleic acid of said HIV-1 variant virus can be detected by stringent  
hybridization (50% formamide, 5X SSC, at 42°C, for 12-16 hours) to a DNA probe  
comprising the genomic cDNA of HIV-1<sub>MAL</sub>.